

February 12, 2004

The Honorable John Elias Baldacci  
Governor of Maine  
1 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0001

Dear Governor Baldacci:

Thank you for your letter forwarding Maine's recommendations on air quality designations for the national health based standards for fine particles. We received your letter on February 2, 2004.

Your letter is an important step toward providing citizens in your state with critical information about air pollution levels in their community. We intend to carefully review the recommendations and work with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection in determining final designations. The EPA must make its final official designation decisions for fine particles by December 31, 2004.

We look forward to working with Maine in the coming months on designations for the fine particle standards. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Tim Williamson, Acting Manager of the Air Quality Planning Unit, at 617-918-1099.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Varney  
Regional Administrator

cc: Dawn Gallagher, ME DEP  
James Brooks, ME DEP